THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) and (b) Supply and distribution of power in Delhi is in the purviaw of the Government of NCT of Delhi. Government of NCT of Delhi/Delhi Transco Ltd. (DTL), have informed that although some break-downs attributable to the deficiencies in the Delhi system did occur, yet the position is better as compared to last year because of the improvements that have been made.

(c) As informed by Government of NCT of Delhi, DTL and private distribution companies have initiated steps to augment T&D system which is being monitored by Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC).

(d) and (e) As informed by Government of NCT of Delhi/DTL, both voltage and frequency profiles have been better compared to last year. However, there have been instances of power failures/breakdowns in some areas during the period of heavy rains when water logging took place in the low lying areas and also due to transmission and distribution bottlenecks and local faults. Government of NCT of Delhi/DTL have also informed that the distribution companies are introducing new billing systems and software and there are some transitional problems.

The distribution of electricity has been corporatized and privatized by the Government of NCT of Delhi and entrusted to two private-sector companies *viz.* BSES and TATA Power. The DERC has been overseeing the sector and *inter-alia fixes* performance criteria to ensure the efficient functioning of the distribution companies.

Singareni Coal Mine accident

*48. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI LALIT SURI:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an accident occurred in an underground mine of the Singareni Collieries Company Limited's Godavarikhani Coalfield in Karimnagar district of Andhra Pradesh on 16.6.03;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of mine workers died/ injured in the accident;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted into the accident, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the compensation paid to the dependents of the deceased/ injured?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 17 Workmen were drowned due to inundation in 7 LEP Mine of Godawari Khani of Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd. on 16.6.2003.

On 16th June, 2003 in 1st shift top section development workings of No. 3 seam got connected with bottom section workings of the same seam that had been extracted in conjunction with hydraulic sand stowing and was containing water. This led to inundation of the top section working and drowning of seventeen workmen.

(c) Yes, Sir. A preliminary enquiry by SCCL and Departmental enquiry by Internal safety Organisation of SCCL has been conducted in this regard. On the basis of preliminary enquiry, SCCL management had already suspended Shri J. Nagaiah, Agent, Shri A. Ravi Kumar, Manager, Shri Abdul Gafoor, Safety Officer and Officiating Manager and Shri P. Papi Reddy, Surveyor.

The Statutory Enquiry by the DGMS Officer has already been initiated as per the provision of the Mines Act, 1952. A Court of Enquiry is in the process of being set up by the Government under Mines Act, 1952.

(d) Details of ex-gratia and compensation paid to dependants of victims are:

- An ex-gratia of Rs.25,000/- has been paid to meet the immediate funeral expenses.
- Compensation as per Workmen's Compensation Act due to fatal accident.
- A special Ex-gratia of Rs. 6.00 Lakh per workman has been paid as declared by Hon'ble Chief Minister of A.P. (Rs.3.00 Lakhs from Company and Rs. 3.00 Lakhs from Chief Minister's Relief Fund).

The total compensation paid to each worker's family under Workmen's Compensation Act and the special ex-gratia varies between Rs.8.79 Lakhs to Rs 10.41 Lakhs.

The total terminal benefits comprising special ex-gratia, compensation, Insurance, Provident Fund and Gratuity etc. varies between Rs. 12.56 Lakhs to Rs.19.67 Lakhs to the family of each deceased workman.

Low rate of conviction in rape case

49. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the all India percentage of conviction in rape cases;

(b) whether Government are aware that till May, 2003, out of 232 rape cases decided in Delhi, there was conviction only in 42 cases and in the remaining 190 accused were either acquitted or discharged; and

(c) if so, the reasons for this low percentage of conviction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) As per the data published by the National Crimes Record Bureau for the year 2000, the All India average percentage of conviction in rape cases is 29.8% per cent.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The main reasons because of which the rape cases do not always end with conviction are reluctance on the part of the victims to appear before the court; non-availability of the witnesses; insufficient evidence; lack of proof about age of the victims; delay in lodging of complaint; and the complainant/witness turning hostile.

Silk Exports

*50. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of silk exported during the last three years;

(b) the foreign exchange earned therefrom during this period; and

(c) the details of incentives being given by Government to silk producers?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) The quantum of silk exported and foreign